TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 13, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended September 8 totaled an estimated 16.5 billion ton-miles, 11.1 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today. Both weeks included the Labor Day holiday.

Cumulative traffic volume for the first 36 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 644.8 billion ton-miles, 15.3 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended September 8 totaled 364,275, up 8.3 percent from last year, but 14.4 percent below the preceding non-holiday week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 15.3 percent in the East, 9.7 percent in the South and 3.6 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 11 of the 21 commodity groups increased. Coal loadings increased by 17,888 cars (18.0 percent) and metallic ores showed a gain of 2,710 cars (20.3 percent). Twenty of the 21 commodity groups declined from the preceding non-holiday week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended September 1 totaled 54,203 cars, up 9.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 92,609 trailers and/or containers, 6.0 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 35 weeks of the year was 1,773,052 cars, 15.7 percent higher than last year, and 3,059,637 trailers and/or containers, up 15.4 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 9/8/84:

	Loadings in Week ended Sept. 8, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	27,030	D	16	0.1	D	7,231	26.8
Other farm products	2,556	D	130	4.8	D	79	3.1
Metallic ores	16,075	I	2,710	20.3	D	2,924	18.2
Coal	117,348	I	17,888	18.0	D	16,685	14.2
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,128	I	1,792	19.2	D	1,738	15.6
Nonmetallic minerals	12,282	I	1,162	10.4	D	1,261	10.3
Grain mill products	8,908	D	1,631	15.5	D	1,424	16.0
Food and kindred products	9,402	D	966	9.3	D	1,740	18.5
Primary forest products	11,450	D	284	2.4	D	1,976	17.3
Lumber and wood products except furniture	5,449	D	49	0.9	D	2,176	39.9
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,383	D	229	1.7	D	1,484	11.1
Chemicals and allied products	23,064	I	2,082	9.9	D	2,685	11.6
Petroleum products	4,399	I	77	1.8	D	331	7.5
Stone, clay and glass products	10,341	I	257	2.5	D	1,009	9.8
Coke	4,628	D	906	16.4	D	132	2.9
Metals and products	6,894	I	39	0.6	D	2,198	31.9
Motor vehicles and equipment	15,728	I	1,783	12.8	D	3,408	21.7
Waste and scrap materials	7,305	I	658	9.9	D	1,647	22.5
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	6,339	D	562	8.1	D	1,708	26.9
All other carloads	50,398	I	4,331	9.4	D	9,568	19.0
LCL traffic	168	D	39	18.8	I	24	14.3
Total Cars Loaded	364,275	I	27,967	8.3	D	61,380	14.4
Corresponding week of 1983	336,308						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (36 weeks)	14,229,121	12,791,297	I 11.2
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
35 weeks ended September 1	628.3	544.6	I 15.4
Week ended September 8	16.5	14.9	I 11.1
36 weeks cumulative	644.8	559.5	I 15.3

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